

FIELD CROPS

POTATO ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND STOCKS

January 2002

2002 WINTER POTATO PRODUCTION

FLORIDA: Planting began around Immokalee, in southwest Florida, in early October. Heavy rains caused by the passage of Hurricane Michelle through the Florida Straits in late October and early November delayed planting in Dade County with producers rediscing fields. Dade County growers started planting by early November with oldest acreage sprouting in late November. Planting in all areas continued into the New Year with picking expected to start by early to mid-February. Winter crop acreage for harvest is estimated at 6,500 acres, up 1,500 acres or 30 percent from the 5,000 acres dug last year. Yield is forecast at 275 hundredweight per acre, up ten hundredweight from the 265 hundredweight average for the winter 2001 crop. Production is expected to total 1,788,000 hundredweight, 35 percent above the 1,325,000 hundredweight harvested a year ago.

UNITED STATES: Winter potato production for 2002 is forecast at 3.89 million cwt, down 6 percent from 2001 and 22 percent below

2000. Acreage for harvest in the two winter potato States (California and Florida) is estimated at 13,500 acres, down 4 percent from 2001 while the average forecast yield of 288 cwt per acre is down 6 cwt from a year ago. California's acreage for harvest is off 22 percent from a year ago, but crop progress is normal.

U.S. SPRING POTATOES: Revised 2001 spring potato production of 21.8 million cwt, is up 12 percent from the May 1 forecast but down less than 1 percent from last year. Harvested area totaled 76,200 acres, up 1 percent from 2000, while the average yield of 286 cwt per acre decreased 4 cwt from 2000. North Carolina's production increased 3 percent from 2000. Spring potatoes in Arizona are 12 percent below a year ago and California's spring crop declined 19 percent, while the Texas crop is down 7 percent.

POTATOES

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield per acre		Production		
	Planted		Harvested						
	2001	Indicated 2002	2001	Indicated 2002	2001	Indicated 2002	2000	2001	Indicated 2002
	1,000 acres				Cwt		1,000 cwt		
Winter									
California	9.0	7.0	9.0	7.0	310	300	2,880	2,790	2,100
Florida	7.8	6.8	5.0	6.5	265	275	2,080	1,325	1,788
Total	16.8	13.8	14.0	13.5	294	288	4,960	4,115	3,888
Spring ^{1/}									
Arizona	8.2		8.2		270		2,520	2,214	
California	15.5		15.5		390		7,426	6,045	
Florida	25.6		25.0		319		6,343	7,970	
Hastings	18.5		18.0		330		4,868	5,940	
Other	7.1		7.0		290		1,475	2,030	
North Carolina	19.5		18.5		190		3,400	3,515	
Texas	9.5		9.0		230		2,232	2,070	
Total	78.3		76.2		286		21,921	21,814	

^{1/} 2000 Revised.

POTATO STOCKS, DOWN 15 PERCENT

January 1, 2002 potato stocks totaled 233 million cwt, down 15 percent from 2001 and 3 percent below two years ago. Potatoes in storage account for 59 percent of the fall storage States' production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago. Stocks by type are 2 percent reds, 10 percent round whites, 3 percent long whites, and 85 percent russets, with a higher percentage of russets, but fewer round and long whites than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to January 1, at 161 million cwt, is down 12 percent from the 2000 crop and 11 percent below two years ago. This is the lowest disappearance since 1993. December disappearance of 33.1 million cwt is down 6 percent from a year ago and the lowest December disappearance in four years. Shrink and loss to this point in the season is 17.2 million cwt, down 19 percent from last year and 18 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 2001 crop potatoes totaled 81.0 million cwt to January 1, down 15 percent from the 2000 crop and 11 percent below two years ago. In December, processors used 16.1 million cwt of potatoes, down 4 percent from a year ago but 2 percent above two years ago.

Western States held 164 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, 2002, down 18 percent from last year and 4 percent below 2000. Idaho's potato stocks are down 15 percent from a year ago, while Washington and Montana are down 12 percent each. Oregon's stocks are off 33 percent and California's potato holdings are off 57 percent from a year ago. Colorado is down 25 percent from 2001.

Central States accounted for 55.2 million cwt of potato stocks this January 1, down 9 percent from 2001 but 5 percent above 2000. North Dakota's stocks are up 4 percent, but the other five central States are down. Wisconsin's stocks are down 3 percent and Michigan's are 10 percent lower. Stocks in Minnesota are off 17 percent from a year ago and Nebraska's stocks dove 36 percent. Ohio's potato stocks are down 29 percent from this date a year ago.

Eastern States stored 14.2 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 2002, down 11 percent from a year ago and 16 percent below two years ago. Maine's holdings are down 15 percent and Pennsylvania's stocks are off 7 percent from last year. New York's potato storage total gained 16 percent from a year ago.

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, nine States, 1998-2001 ^{1/}									
State	Crop year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1	Entire season
1,000 cwt									
Idaho & Malheur County, Oregon	1998	27,510	34,700	42,670	51,210	60,040	68,550	76,410	92,860
	1999	27,970	34,490	40,790	49,220	57,820	66,080	74,110	88,210
	2000	29,290	35,720	43,470	50,580	58,910	66,760	75,270	93,460
	2001	20,940	27,330						
Maine ^{2/}	1998	1,430	1,935	2,530	2,985	3,595	4,180	4,705	5,945
	1999	1,270	1,700	2,385	3,070	3,765	4,560	5,150	6,670
	2000	1,845	2,475	3,105	3,695	4,225	4,760	5,340	7,015
	2001	1,935	2,420						
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	1998	33,630	38,890	45,650	53,290	60,930	67,180	74,190	83,730
	1999	33,320	39,620	45,500	53,350	61,080	67,230	74,840	83,210
	2000	34,770	40,970	47,720	55,250	62,860	69,850	78,010	91,130
	2001	29,270	35,310						
Other States ^{3/}	1998	11,570	14,465	18,030	20,850	24,850	28,190	31,365	39,865
	1999	12,455	15,035	17,950	20,855	24,305	27,220	30,410	35,940
	2000	12,665	16,215	18,975	22,095	25,410	28,695	31,765	39,020
	2001	12,715	15,905						
Total	1998	74,140	89,990	108,880	128,335	149,415	168,100	186,670	222,400
	1999	75,015	90,845	106,625	126,495	146,970	165,090	184,510	214,030
	2000	78,570	95,380	113,270	131,620	151,405	170,065	190,385	230,625
	2001	64,860	80,965						

^{1/} Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, MI, and WI. ^{2/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. ^{3/} MN, NV, ND, SD, and WI in 2000 and 2001. MI, MN, ND, and WI in 1998 and 1999.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on January 1, 2001-2002							
State	Crop of 2000			Crop of 2001			
	Production	Stocks Jan 1, 2001	Percent of production	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2001	Stocks Jan 1, 2002	January as percent of production
1,000 cwt				1,000 cwt			
California	3,741	2,100	56	1,113	1,000	900	81
Colorado	27,972	17,700	63	21,357	15,600	13,300	62
Idaho	152,320	101,000	66	127,980	95,000	86,000	67
Maine	17,920	12,500	70	16,120	12,100	10,600	66
Michigan	14,963	6,900	46	14,030	8,200	6,200	44
Minnesota	21,240	13,000	61	18,425	12,000	10,800	59
Montana	3,503	3,250	93	3,040	2,950	2,850	94
Nebraska	10,127	6,650	66	8,512	4,850	4,250	50
New York	5,964	1,900	32	5,942	2,900	2,200	37
North Dakota	26,950	16,200	60	26,400	19,500	16,900	64
Ohio	1,134	170	15	984	220	120	12
Oregon	30,683	23,000	75	20,730	17,500	15,500	75
Pennsylvania	3,510	1,500	43	3,173	1,700	1,400	44
Washington	105,000	52,000	50	94,400	53,000	45,500	48
Wisconsin	33,800	17,400	51	31,955	20,000	16,900	53
Total 15 States	458,827	275,270	60	394,161	266,520	233,420	59